

PATENT APPLN. NO. 10/812,170
RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.111

**PATENT
NON-FINAL**

REMARKS

Claim 1 has been amended to precisely recite that the antibacterial agent used in the method of the present invention comprises a mixture of nonvolatile compounds obtained by fractionation of the portion of a citrus cold press oil remaining after citrus cold press oil is heated at 90 to 120°C under reduced pressure, said mixture of nonvolatile compounds containing 40% by weight or more of coumarin analogues. Support for this amendment, inter alia, is the description in the specification of the method for obtaining the mixture of coumarin analogues beginning on page 5, line 18, to page 6, line 3.

Claim 4 has been amended to recite that the mixture of coumarin analogues is extracted from a fraction eluted by a solvent after the portion of the citrus cold press oil remaining after citrus cold press oil is heated at 90 to 120°C under reduced pressure is carried on a support.

Claims 2 and 3 and the claims dependent thereon have been cancelled.

The amendments to the claims avoid or overcome the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, of claims 3 and 4 as being indefinite relating to the terminology "high boiling point portion".

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Claims 1-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Tamaoki et al. (JP 407025764A, abstract).

Tamaoki discloses an antibacterial agent containing specific coumarins, i.e., 8-geranoxypsoralen, 5-geranoxypsoralen and/or 5-geranoxo-7-methoxycoumarin. Each of the coumarins is isolated from a pericarp of a citrus fruit and then these isolated coumarins are mixed. Tamaoki does not disclose a method of inhibiting the growth of bacteria using an antibacterial agent within the scope of the claims of the present application which is a mixture of nonvolatile compounds obtained by fractionation of the portion of a citrus cold press oil remaining after citrus cold press oil is heated at 90 to 120°C under reduced pressure, the mixture of nonvolatile compounds containing 40% by weight or more of coumarin analogues. A mixture of 8-geranoxypsoralen, 5-geranoxypsoralen and/or 5-geranoxo-7-methoxycoumarin, each obtained separately and then mixed, is not a mixture of nonvolatile compounds containing 40% by weight or more of coumarin analogues.

Removal of the 35 U.S.C. § 102 rejection and an allowance of the claims of the present application are believed to be in order and are respectfully solicited.

The foregoing is believed to be a complete and proper response to the Office Action dated March 2, 2005, and is believed to place

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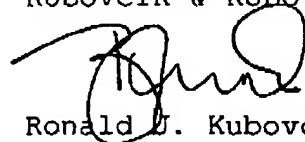
this application in condition for allowance. If, however, minor issues remain that can be resolved by means of a telephone interview, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number indicated below.

In the event that this paper is not considered to be timely filed, applicants hereby petition for an appropriate extension of time. The fee for any such extension may be charged to our Deposit Account No. 111833.

In the event any additional fees are required, please also charge our Deposit Account No. 111833.

Respectfully submitted,

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